7: Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1949-50) 1951 MM1 Aden
Hadhramaut mm2

to the Hadhramaut. This winter rainfall enormously improved the range conditions over the mountain areas of the Protectorate and produced exceptionally good pasturage for the desert tribes in the north-east. 132

Large acreages of winter cereals and fodder crops were grown. The year finished with the whole of the Protectorate in good condition. 241

Livestock started the year in many areas in a starved condition, and in the east with their numbers greatly reduced. At the end of 1949 their condition was restored, but numbers, particularly of small stock, were low. 231

Plant Pests and Diseases

As a result of the favourable rains and the continuance of sorghum cultivation through the Saif season, to the flood crop of the Kharif, and into the lift irrigated crops planted in autumn, 1949, there was a serious increase in the stalk borer population, and an estimated loss of up to 50 per cent of the crop resulted in the Hadhramaut lift irrigated areas. 731 242

Animal Health

No outbreak of rinderpest or other serious animal disease was recorded during 1949. 731

Market Conditions

With the devaluation of the pound the value of the Maria Theresa dollar rose nearly 30 per cent in relation to rupee currency. Produce prices remained high until autumn, 1949, when a sharp drop occurred in many districts following the good harvests. Sorghum grain on the Aden market averaged about £35 per ton throughout 1949. 455

Demonstration and Experiment

A field trial with X1730A cotton grown from Abyan raised seed was very successful in 1949; some 1,750 lbs. of seed cotton per acre was obtained from scattered plots totalling 82 acres which had received one watering only before planting. The crop was planted in the months of September and October, and grew rapidly. In some fields plants reached a height of over 6 feet and carried an enormous crop. No important pests or diseases were seen. 242

The crop was classified by the Chief Classifier of the Sudan Plantation Syndicate, who was flown over for the purpose; he placed about half the crop in grades 3 and 4, and the balance in grades 5 and 6, basing his classification on Sudan Gezira standard for L type cottons. The graded crop was sold to the Raw Cotton Commission.

Varieties of cane, introduced in small quantities from Mauritius in the previous season, were cut in September, 1949, and planted out in observation plots.